

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19, 21-23 and 25-28 are pending in the present application. Claim 29 has been canceled and claims 1, 13, 26 and 28 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 13 and 26 were objected to; claims 1, 26 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Ostman et al. in view of Subbiah et al.; claims 2-12, 27 and 29 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and to be in independent form; claims 13-17 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections noted in the Office Action; and claims 18, 19, 21-23 and 25 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, the appropriate claims have been amended to overcome the objections, and independent claim 28 has been amended to subject matter recited dependent claim 29. Further, independent claims 1 and 26 were amended to correspond with the allowed features in claim 13. In particular, the term “multiplies” has been changed to “multiplexes” in claims 1 and 26 to correspond with the allowed features in independent claim 13. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1 and 26 and each of the claims depending

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therefrom are also allowable and the rejection noted in the Office Action has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David A. Bilodeau** at the telephone number listed below.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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